

## ABSTRACT

1       The present invention provides a process for implementing a generic Cluster wide  
2 lock broker that enables Clients attached to a Node on the Cluster to determine whether a  
3 lock can be established on a Resource and whether conflicting active locks are already  
4 held by another Peer Node. The process utilizes lock request that include a lock name  
5 identifying the desired Resource. Each lock request is compared by a lock broker  
6 daemon resident on each Node of the Cluster against a Lock Broker Table identifying  
7 active locks currently held by any client associated with each specific Peer Node.  
8 Additionally, the process enables the use and creation of customized locks by utilizing  
9 intent modes, which designate how a Client desires to utilize a Resource, and deny  
10 modes, which designate how a Client desires to prevent other Clients from utilizing a  
11 Resource. Further, lock requests initially denied because an active lock exists for the  
12 desired Resource can be placed in a wait state and re-requested upon releasing of the  
13 active lock.